

Message Text

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65-60
ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 TRSE-00 SS-15

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OMB-01 /059 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:JFKNOWLES/HHLANGE:RLW

APPROVED BY EA:LEDMOND

E:DWOOD

EB/"BA:JBILLER

COMMERCE - LFOX (IN SUBSTANCE)

AGRI:MR. HUME (INSUBST)

TREASURY:RFAUVER (SUBS.)

----- 110636

R 111531Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OCON, NZ

SUBJECT: US-NEW ZEALAND ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 020518

1. ON ASSUMPTION THAT GNZ WISHES TO PROCEED WITH ANNUAL
ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF ANZUS COUNCIL MEETING,
WE ARE NOW PREPARED TO HAVE YOU PROPOSE TO GNZ MARCH 31
AND APRIL 1 AS DATES MOST CONVENIENT TO US SIDE. YOU
COULD INFORM GNZ THAT IT APPEARS THIS TIME THAT UNDER
SECRETARY ROBINSON WILL BE ABLE TO OPEN TALKS AND TO
PARTICIPATE IN PART OF FIRST MORNING'S SESSION. HE MAY
ALSO HOST LUNCHEON. BULK OF TALKS WILL BE CHAIRED AT
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL, PROBABLY BY LESTER

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EDMOND (EA) AND JOEL BILLER (EB). YOU MAY EXPRESS
OUR REGRET THAT WE ARE NOT ABLE TO SUGGEST EARLIER DATES.

2. WE NOTE THAT GNZ HAS NOT APPROACHED US ON THIS SUBJECT SINCE DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB MEETING WITH MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TRADE WALDING AT NEW YORK IN OCTOBER, 1974. WE DO NOT WISH TO PRESS GNZ TO GO AHEAD WITH TALKS AT THIS TIME IF FOR ANY REASON NEW ZEALANDERS THINK LATER TIMING MIGHT BE MORE FAVORABLE. IN PROPOSING DATES TO NEW ZEALANDERS, REQUEST THAT YOU

MAKE CLEAR THAT TIMING BASED ON ASSUMPTION THEY WISH TALKS AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT WE ARE FLEXIBLE AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO POSTPONE. DEPARTMENT WILL MAKE SAME POINT TO NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY HERE. FYI. WE WISH TO INSURE THAT NEW ZEALANDERS FIND REAL VALUE IN THESE TALKS, AND THAT TALKS ARE NOT BEING CARRIED FORWARD SIMPLY BY MOMENTUM OF PAST COMMITMENTS. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON THIS POINT. END FYI.

3. PROPOSED AGENDA WILL BE TRANSMITTED AT LATER TIME FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF EMBASSY REPORT ON GNZ VIEWS ON TIMING AND EMBASSY SUGGESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS. INGERSOLL

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